



**GRIMME**  
HARVESTING SUCCESS!

**inform**

**Grimme NEWSLETTER**  
Spring 2013

# Grimme UK Expands Swineshead Premises

Work started in mid-February on a major expansion to Grimme UK's premises at Swineshead, Lincolnshire.

**W**ith the ever increasing demand for bigger machinery the facilities at Station Road Swineshead have been stretched for a number of years.

The initial building and site development back in 1997 has now been outgrown with the on-going development of potato, sugar beet and irrigation equipment as well as the operation of the retail branch at Swineshead, and additionally with the recent partnership with ASA-LIFT. To accommodate the required facilities for these and the normal day to day running of the Grimme business, the plans are now in place for an extension to the workshop, stores and Grimme UK's own 'Technicom' situated in the existing showroom.

With a higher roofed building and a greater capacity overhead crane facility, the ability to future manage the current ranges of machinery will be much easier.

“The initial building and site development back in 1997 has now been outgrown...”

The development will take place behind the existing building, with some alterations to the existing workshop to assist in general access.

The development is planned to be completed later this year and has been assigned to a local building contractor.



ASA-LIFT Grimme's new harvesting co-operation partner: See back page.



## Welcome

Last season was difficult to say the least! Although I hope we can expect better conditions this year, the resilience and ability of UK growers to innovate and change is amazing.

A major change over the last 18 months has been the rapid move towards self propelled harvesting and our centre spread features two large growers who have seen real benefits in a move to the new Tectron 415.

Cleaner, faster harvesting is critical to the success of every enterprise, which is why Grimme is pleased to have a growing commercial partnership with ASA-LIFT, a leader in specialist crop harvesters. Hear what a leading grower thinks about this! We also look at another commercial relationship with Briggs Irrigation and how this will play an important part in broadening our domestic irrigation business.

Among our regular features is news of further development at our UK base and Grimme's continuing commitment to growers World-wide.

**P.S. Have you tried Farming Simulator 2013?**



**Ralph Powell**  
Editor for Grimme UK

## ASA-LIFT Carrot Harvesters Unfazed by Appalling Weather

**A** good day's lifting of carrots by Richard Inger's harvesting team will see up to 450 tonnes of the crop being transported to the pack house for washing and grading.

Operations manager for vegetable growing company Strawson Ltd, based at Bilsthorpe, Newark, Notts, Mr Inger has a busy time of it overseeing a carrot harvesting operation which starts in early June and continues through to the following May.

**“Through a combination of drilling time, variety and geographical location we can ensure a supply of freshly harvested carrots for about ten months of the year, ”**

Mr Inger points out that drilling commences in January under plastic on the lighter soils of Suffolk with successive crops grown in the Midlands and up into Scotland where the later carrots are strawed to provide a continuous supply. In total, the company grows 1500 acres of carrots along with 2500 acres of potatoes, 4500 acres of cereals – not to mention the sugar beet, parsnips and leeks.

'As for most growers, the wet conditions have resulted in a particularly taxing time for us and it has stretched the ability of our machinery to operate effectively,' he says. 'With the lifting period for carrots so extended the only saving grace has been that our two harvesters have managed to keep going and get the crop out of the ground.' The two harvesters, ASA-LIFT TRS 1500s, have been in use for the last four seasons and together form the basis for two harvesting teams which

provide the flexibility to lift the quantity of carrots required by the supermarkets. 'We usually have one team lifting all the while and add in the second team when the demand is high – such as at Christmas time,' he explains. 'Although this year's harvesting conditions have meant that we have had both teams working most of the time.'

The ASA-LIFT harvesters have worked nonstop in some pretty appalling conditions – Mr Inger comments that, to their credit, he believes they are the only harvesters which could operate effectively in such conditions.

The harvesters are powered by an integral hydraulic system. The carrots are topped in a separate operation and then lifted onto the first of two webs, which are agitated to help separate the soil from them. The main cleaning though, takes place at the end of the second web when the crop is passed over a hedgehog cleaner and a set of cleaning rolls. From there, the carrots meet a cross conveyor which takes them to the discharge elevator and into a trailer.

**'It's simple, efficient and reliable and there is very little to go wrong or to maintain,' he says. 'And the really important part is that the lifted carrots are clean and we don't spend a lot of time and effort carting half the field around with us – even in these conditions.'**

**Mr Inger concludes, 'Harvesting has been slower this year but the carrots have continued to be lifted and our customers supplied.'**

## Farming Simulator 2013®

Farming Simulator 2013® now has potato and sugar beet machinery from Grimme plus all you need to run many other different enterprises.

[www.farming-simulator.com](http://www.farming-simulator.com)

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### UK GROWER EVENTS

**CEREALS 2013** 12.06.13 – 13.06.13

Boothby Graffoe, Near Lincoln.

**ROYAL HIGHLAND SHOW** 20.06.13 – 23.06.13

Ingliston, Edinburgh

**BRITISH POTATO** 27.11.13 – 28.11.13

Yorkshire Event Centre, Harrogate

Co-sponsored by Grimme

## News & Events

### The Grimme Box Tippler BT183

**Shown for the first time at LAMMA 2013, the Grimme BT183 Box Tippler is designed to tip 1 or 1.2 tonne boxes into a bulk receiving hopper or onto a feed conveyor.**

The full box is placed in the bottom position and is automatically clamped and the lid retains the crop in the box whilst the forward tipping action begins and once tipped the lid opens slowly to allow the gentle outflow of the crop. Once tipped, the box returns to the originally placed position before the system raises the box to the upper position, where it is held whilst the box tipping platform lowers to the start point ready to accept another full box.

When the top empty box is taken away the lid moves down to the top of the full box and the cycle starts again. The time cycle is under three minutes to achieve an acceptable output whilst retaining a gentle tipping action for the crop.

Using the Grimme VC50 control system, the parameters can be changed to suit the required tip cycle.

The box tippler can feed into a bulk receiving hopper or a wide feed conveyor which in turn acts as a buffer system to feed the next piece of handling equipment. As with all Grimme Handling Equipment the BT183 is capable of sequential start and stop mode.





## Enthusiastic Welcome for Tectron 415 from Large Growers

### Four Row Potato Harvester Simplifies Lifting Operation

**T**his year, James Daw is set to increase his potato acreage from 850 acres to 1000 acres and still aims to harvest them all in a seven week period.

Headquartered at Pipe Ridware, Lichfield, Staffs Mr Daw and his family grow about 2500 acres of combinable crops and this year, 1000 acres of potatoes – a significant percentage of which are grown on rented land.

**'We grow all main crop for processing with about half marketed through Tame Valley Potatoes which supplies McCain, and half through Walkers supply group Mease Valley Potatoes for the crisp market,'** explains Mr Daw.

Just two weeks before the start of last year's potato harvest a new Grimme Tectron 415 four-row self-propelled harvester arrived on the farm.



'I'd always been keen to have a four-row self-propelled harvester ever since we tried one a few years ago – I could see the advantages they could offer but I felt they could do with some further development at the time.

So when Grimme launched the Tectron we looked long and hard at it before we decided to give it a go,' he says.

'With the trailed harvesters there would be tractors and trailers running about everywhere – a minimum of three in the field, three taking loads to the store and probably another three bringing empty trailers back to the field,' he explains. 'The field was having a hard time of it in terms of compaction and soil damage, the roads were covered in mud, fuel consumption was enormous, and the labour bill was sky high.'

**“I'd always been keen to have a four-row self-propelled harvester ever since we tried one a few years ago...”**

The Tectron, with its 3m long rubber tracks and large, close coupled powered rear wheels which run in the space between the tracks, virtually eliminates soil damage problems and, combined with a headland unloading system, ensures the field can be cultivated and drilled with a following crop.

'With the harvester's ability to carry up to 15 tonnes of harvested potatoes, we have adopted a new field to store transport system, which works very well' he says, 'The number of tractors and trailers required is at least halved, there is no mud on the road, costs are very much reduced and, most importantly, the land is in good heart when we've finished the job.'

'In last year's conditions there would have been days if not weeks when the trailed machines could not have worked and I suspect that even in ideal conditions, the Tectron would harvest more in a day.' He adds that the high investment he has made in the self-propelled Tectron harvester is more than justified with the reduction in tractors, trailers and labour costs alone – and with up to 50 acres/day, the new harvester is a must-have for large scale potato growers.

'There is too much at stake to risk losing crops due to an inability to be able to harvest them,' he concludes.



### Tectron Helps Boost Output and Efficiency

**W**hen it comes to matters of output, soil care and economy of tractors, trailers and labour, the self-propelled machine is the future for large acreage growers,' insists Yordan Yordanov, who manages JJ Davison and Son's 2000 acre farm at Clifton Campville, Tamworth.

Around 800 acres of potatoes are grown on farm plus a significant additional acreage rented from farmers within a 20 mile radius.

All the potatoes are taken by Pepsico for its Walkers crisp brand – accounting for one bag of crisps for every 35 bags produced. Harvesting usually starts at the end of July with green-tops which leave the farm as fresh and progresses on to potatoes for storage, with lifting completed by the end of October.

Until the start of last year crops were lifted using a two-row trailed Grimme GT along with a two-row windrower which enabled four rows to be lifted at a time.

That system worked well although it required a large number of tractors and trailers to run around the field to keep the harvester on the move.

With an increasing acreage to harvest, it was decided to invest in a new 4 row, self-propelled Tectron 415, which had the potential in good conditions to lift up to 50 acres/day.

'Last year was a challenging time for all potato harvesters but I have to say the Tectron managed to keep moving even across land where tractors pulling empty trailers were getting stuck,' he says.

Headland turns are now much quicker too. 'With a trailed unit there is not only the harvester to run along the headland and line up with the next bout, there is also the trailer which has get in place before harvesting can restart,' he says. 'The Tectron just turns round and starts harvesting again.'

The topper and the two-row trailed harvester were traded-in and now there is no requirement for the windrower and two tractors and trailers along with their drivers. 'The savings all add up and help to justify the high investment we have made,' he says.

**The farm retains a Grimme Variant 1700 it can call on if extra output is needed to meet an order but it is clearly essential that the Tectron keeps working, With that in mind, 'It could be we consider windrowing again and double up the rows so the Tectron is taking eight rows in each pass – but we'll see,' he concludes.**

### Specialist Support is the Key

**A**IS recently rebranded to become Rea ValleyTractors (Sudbury) Ltd. The Group's Customer and Product Support Manager Glenn Logan believes their growing success amongst specialist growers is based on quality equipment from Grimme backed by dedicated service support from its factory trained specialists and technicians. The proof? Sales of two new Tectron harvesters last season by AIS.

Glenn observes, 'The industry has changed. Today we are dealing with fewer professional growers, with high expectations and more potato land, meaning greater emphasis on machinery which achieves high output and increases economies of scale.'

The proof? AIS sold two new Tectron harvesters to local growers last season.

To find out more about the Tectron 415, just scan this QR code.





Robert Kendall &amp; His Monsun 3000 Irrigator



Royal Highland Show 2012

## Irrigation

### Grimme Irrigator Proves Hit at Farmer Cooperative Open Day

With 2012 being one of the wettest years on record one could be excused for not perhaps focusing on purchasing a new irrigator. But, Grimme UK's irrigation system has continued to impress growers with a recent demonstration to a Yorkshire marketing cooperative.

Robert Kendall of Low Grange Farm, near Shiptonthorpe at the foot of the Yorkshire Wolds recently tested the Monsun 3000 at an open day on a 65 acre field of potatoes.

The 2000 acre vegetable and cereal operation that Robert runs with his brothers Peter and Chris has the capacity to irrigate up to 300 acres of crops including carrots, potatoes, sugar beet, vining peas and cereals.

'We were asked by Grimme to try its new irrigation equipment as a potential replacement for our current system based on the Javelin Irrifrance,' says Mr Kendall. 'We tested the large Monsun 3000 irrigator at an open day, organised by a seven member farmer consortium called Whole Crop Marketing.'

'The tractor basically drives forward into the crop with the irrigator so it's in the desired pull-out position.

This avoids having to drive around the machine or around the field.'

'Its run length is about 600m and with the rain gun, covers about 10 acres. It means we can reach fields that we were unable to get to before and it would mean we could grow crops along the longer lengths of fields, avoiding split headlands,' he says 'This basically opens up more land for roots. We also see a big advantage from the fact that the Monsun system has no small pipes and very few bends which help mitigate leaks and blockages.'

Having a longer run length means he is carrying out one pull a day as opposed to two pulls with his shorter reels. Better quality and thicker pipe work also reduces the chance for damaging the pipe on sharp stones and obstacles.

'Moving irrigators is always a challenge and time consuming. Including a hydraulic turning axle makes the Monsun much easier to manoeuvre and leaves fewer ruts.'

The turbine and hydraulic gearbox on the Monsun 3000 is a simple but effective control system based on the proven Beinlich design and is recognised in the industry. Add to this the Grimme name and he says it gives him the confidence that he is dealing with a no-nonsense and high quality piece of equipment.

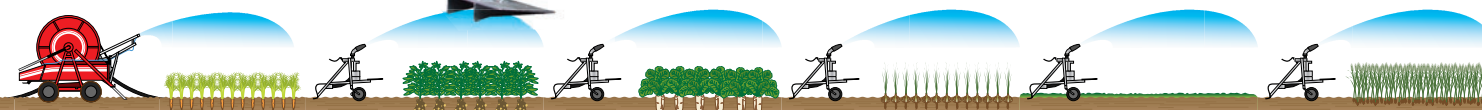
The Monsun 3000 irrigator has 120mm diameter pipe and has a bilateral chain drive on the outer edge of the reel for maximum traction force. The drawbar can be hydraulically lifted from the tractor, which raises the front wheels off the ground, ensuring a very tight turning circle without screwing off the wheels.

'We like the fact that the Monsun principle is unique in that it's designed to reduce handling time to a minimum,' says Mr Kendall.



The hydraulic table and legs – rather than a manual system – makes setting up easier and more efficient too,' says Mr Kendall.

'The principle of a larger irrigating unit should in theory mean we can take out two older irrigators and replace them with one. Bearing in mind that an irrigator reel can cost £20,000, this would be a big saving.'



### Press Update: Grimme UK appointed a dealer for Briggs Irrigation

Briggs Irrigation has appointed Grimme UK Ltd to be a dealer for the company's boom and pump sets. This complements Grimme's existing Beinlich Irrigation hose reel range. Both Grimme and Briggs Irrigation are seen as market leaders in their own sectors and working together is the obvious choice for both companies.

Briggs Irrigation is delighted to be supplying its full portfolio of booms and irrigation pumps to complement the Grimme range of hose reels, says Briggs sales director Adrian Colwill. The full range of Briggs booms, pumps and Grimme hose reels as well as an extensive range of irrigation supplies from pipes and fittings to seals and hoses are available through the four Grimme UK Retail outlets at Swineshead, York, Ladybank and Shrewsbury and also through Grimme Ireland based near Dublin. Grimme Irrigation sales manager Ed Hodson says that the Briggs boom is renowned for being the best boom on the market, and with growers now more aware of the need to apply water efficiently, the natural synergy between the two companies and combined unrivalled experience is excellent news for new and existing growers.

For further information on Grimme Irrigation please contact Ed Hodson on 01205 821491 / 07766 443471 or by email to [e.hodson@grimme.co.uk](mailto:e.hodson@grimme.co.uk).

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Grimme UK regrets any inference from recent press information or advertising that a commercial partnership exists between Grimme and Briggs. The company is pleased to offer Briggs equipment from its retail branches as part of the wider franchised Briggs network in the UK and Ireland.

## Royal Highland Show

### Royal Highland Show Invests to Maintain 'Best Show' Badge



The Royal Highland Show and its organisers the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) are well accustomed to handing out awards to prize-winning livestock, food and drink products and innovative farm equipment.

And with plans well underway for this year's four-day event, the show itself has been on the receiving end. It was voted the best agricultural show in the UK by readers of a national farming magazine and won a second top award – the Best Event in Scotland – by the National Outdoor Event Association.

Good news indeed, however organisers are now focusing on how to maintain this 'best show' badge considering the challenges faced during last year's event as a result of torrential rain. Exhibitors were updated on the Society's plans at a recent trade briefing held at Ingliston House during which RHASS announced a three-year £4.2 million investment to 'weather proof' the showground.

Commenting on the programme of works, RHASS Chief Executive, Stephen Hutt said: 'A detailed design study has identified ways in which we can deliver immediate results in terms of drainage and the internal road network which will 'shore up' both the showground and the carparks. This work is well underway and will be complete in time for this year's show.'

'In parallel, we are in detailed discussions with our neighbours Edinburgh Airport and RBS on developing robust contingency plans should these be required.'

Our congratulations to the Society. However, for the show's loyal exhibitors and the 160,000 people who braved the elements last year to attend what many regard as the greatest show on earth.

This year's Royal Highland Show takes place on 20th – 23rd June.

For further information log on to [www.royalhighlandshow.org](http://www.royalhighlandshow.org).



ROYAL  
HIGHLAND  
SHOW 2013  
• 20-23 JUNE •  
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## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

**POTATO EUROPE** 11.09.13 – 12.09.13  
Emmeloord, Netherlands. [www.potatoeurope.com](http://www.potatoeurope.com)

**AGRITECHNICA** 10.11.13 – 16.11.13  
Hanover. [www.agritechnica.com](http://www.agritechnica.com)

# International Recognition for Grimme

**W**ith effect from January 8th 2013 Grimme has been awarded 'Known Consignor' status by the German Federal Aviation Administration.

This certificate is valid for all air freight deliveries which are dispatched from Grimme in Damme. Therefore it was necessary to create a separate office, which only can be entered by certified and trained employees.

**“We thank everybody who was involved in this project for the outstanding work, and that we received the certificate directly without any complaints.”**

said Franz Grimme.

This will guarantee faster, trouble free supply of original spare parts to customers all around the world.

**So far only 750 companies from 66,000 have received the certificate.**

*Below: The Grimme main project team from the logistic and parts sales pictured in front of the secure office (from left to right) Jürgen Tiarks, Fernando Charbonnier, Wilfried Rövekamp, Martin Mittendorf and Mart Timmermans.*



**F**or the 5th time since 2004 Grimme has opened its doors for its customers and dealers at the Grimme Technica in Damme. A new visitor record was set with 3,500 customers from over 20 countries.

The innovative show with over 10 innovations from the potato, sugar beet and biogas plant technology together with factory tours in Damme and the new plants in the 'Niedersachsenpark' were very well appreciated. Kleine from Salzkotten is now a brand within the Grimme group and Kleine's Cleanliner was presented at the Grimme Technica. With the launch of the new 6 row REXOR 630 beet harvester, (30 ton bunker capacity) Grimme now offers the widest product range of beet equipment.



**'The mood is good not only because of the good potato prices but we are looking forward to a good start for the 2013 season' said Mr. Grimme as a résumé.**

*Pictured Above (1): Watching with amazement as the new 15m long, 3-axle beet harvester REXOR 630, with its 625 HP Mercedes-Benz engine is unveiled. (2) Kleine is now part of the Grimme Group of Companies.*

**G**rimme presented a number of innovative technologies for potato, sugar beet and vegetable technology at SIMA Show .

Grimme had 15 potato and sugarbeet machines on display, the widest range of any manufacturer at the Show. It was the first time that the Kleine Beetliner Compact and the Cleanliner Mega loader had been displayed by Grimme. The 1,500sqm stand was manned by more than 50 Grimme staff who welcomed a large number of visitors.

On the adjacent stand, ASA-LIFT showed its machines. The Danish specialist in vegetable technology is a co-operation partner with Grimme in a number of markets. This was evident from the striking visual similarities between the two stands.

SIMA marked a successful start into the 2013 show calendar, which will end with the Agritechnica 2013 in November in Hanover.

**Grimme UK Ltd**, Station Road,  
Swineshead, Boston, Lincolnshire PE20 3PS

**T:** 01205 822300

**F:** 01205 821196

**E:** [info@grimme.co.uk](mailto:info@grimme.co.uk)

**W:** [www.grimmeuk.com](http://www.grimmeuk.com)



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